

Message Text

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16

ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 /020 W

----- 068055

R 011440Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0340

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

UNCLAS NIAMEY 1222

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV

SUBJECT: OPIC OFFICIAL VISIT

REF: STATE 66310

1. CONCUR IN VISIT OF OPIC OFFICIAL JACK HOEVELER. EVEN THOLH NIGER'S NARROW ECONOMIC BASE DEPRESSED BY EFFECTS OF DROUGHT DOES NOT SEEM AS YET READY FOR OPIC, WE BELIEVE VISIT CAN BE FURTHER DEMONSTRATION OF US INTEREST IN LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT OF NIGER AND SOME TIME MIGHT BE PROFITABLY SPENT WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, BANKERS, ETC. EMBASSY ALSO WELCOMES BRIEFING ON OPIC PROGRAMS.

2. OUR GUESS IS THAT POSSIBILITIES OF INTEREST TO OPIC IN NIAMEY WOULD BE EXHAUSTED IN TWO DAYS. ONLY LARGE US INVESTMENT IN NIGER IS BY US OIL COMPANIES WHO WELL AWARE OF OPIC'S PROGRAMS. WOULD HOEVELER BE INTERESTED IN TRIP TO INTERIOR FOR BALANCE OF NIAMEY STAY. POSSIBILITIES INCLUDE CAR TRIP TO SEE LARGE SCALE FOOD PRODUCTION SCHEME IN SEARCH OF FINANCING, CEMENT FACTORY AT MALBAZA, FLOUR MILL AT ZINDER AND SEVERAL PEANUT OIL PROCESSING PLANTS. HOEVELER COULD MAKE TRIP BY CAR (CFA 8,675 PER DAY PLUS CFA 65 PER KILOMETER AND 14.8PCT TAX) AND RETURN FROM ZINDER MORNING APRIL 22 BY AIR. ALTERNATIVE TRIP MIGHT BE FLIGHT TO

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ARLIT AND AKOUTA WHERE URANIUM MINES LOCATED AND WHERE
INVESTMENT POTENTIAL IS MORE SUBSTANTIAL.
WE COULD ARRANGE FOR LOCAL MEMBER OF STAFF TO
ACCOMPANY, IF DESIRED.HECK

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Message Attributes

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